

Name:

LOOKING at RESEARCH QUESTIONS



1. For each question, decide whether it is researchable.

A Researchable question is one that...

- Needs information from sources other than yourself
- Can be researched—you can find information to help you answer it
- Not too broad = So general that it would take you forever to answer it
- Not too narrow = So specific that it doesn't allow for more exploration of a topic

2. Then, decide what type of research question it is.

YES/NO question: The answer to the question is either YES or NO.

INCH question: The answer is very short, and usually needs very little research.

FOOT question: The question requires some reading through the information you find to answer the question in your own words.

YARD question: This question requires some searching in a variety of sources, then combining the information you find, and drawing your own conclusions.

Example Research Question	Researchable?	Type of Q
Was President Abraham Lincoln assassinated?		
What games were played during the ancient Greek Olympics?		
Does McDonald's or Burger King make a better burger?		
How does Hawaii's location and climate affect its economy?		
How was the Mississippi Delta formed?		
If George Washington had not been our first president, how might our history have been different?		
What city developed the first usable subway system?		
How long is the Mississippi River?		
Why was Richard III considered an evil king?		
What are the advantages of solar power over coal-fired electric plants?		
Why is soccer such an important sport in Mexico?		
When did Richard III reign?		
How did the original 13 colonies become the United States?		
What is the importance of genetic research in our lives?		
What ways will Coca-Cola use to sell their soda in the future?		
How many states make up the United States?		